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**Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**
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Item 8 of the provisional agenda*
**Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds**

# Report of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues annual meeting for 2013

## Note by the secretariat

The annual meeting of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues was convened in New York on 22 and 23 October 2013. It was hosted by the United Nations Children's Fund, in accordance with the Support Group's terms of reference and the practice established in 2002 of rotating the chair annually among its members.

The Inter-Agency Support Group discussed, among other matters, key issues regarding the preparations for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in September 2014, and the milestones leading towards the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals. The annual meeting provided a platform for agreement on a coherent framework for the preparation of technical papers to serve as resource papers for the World Conference, as well as the post-2015 development agenda process.

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# Report of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues annual meeting for 2013

## I. Background

1. As Chair of the Inter-Agency Support Group for 2013-2014, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) hosted the annual meeting of the Support Group for 2013. It will serve as Chair of the Support Group until the end of the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to be succeeded in that role by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

### A. Attendance

2. The meeting was attended by focal points for indigenous peoples' issues from over 15 international agencies, the Chair of the Permanent Forum, Paul Kanyinke Sena, and by Permanent Forum members Alvaro Esteban Pop and Mirna Cunningham. Special guests included the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations, Ambassador Jorge Mario Montaño y Martinez, the International Representative of the Sámi Parliament of Norway, John Henriksen, and the Co-Chair of the Global Coordinating Group of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and Director of the Red de Mujeres Indígenas sobre Biodiversidad de America Latina y el Caribe, Florina Lopez. The list of participants is contained in annex I.

3. In keeping with the established practice of previous meetings of the Support Group, it was agreed by the participants that the representative of the host agency (Beatrice Duncan of UNICEF) and the chief of the secretariat of the Permanent Forum (Chandra Roy-Henriksen), would be Co-Chairs of the meeting. The meeting adopted its provisional agenda.

### B. Opening of the meeting

4. The UNICEF Principal Adviser on Gender and Rights, Anju Malhotra, opened the meeting. In her address, she noted that with the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples fast approaching, and the post-2015 development agenda still open for inputs hence, the Support Group had solid opportunities to address inequalities in many sectors. She urged Support Group members to identify a few priorities for the work of the Group, with corresponding key messages, and appealed to keep the rights of indigenous children and adolescents in the forefront of deliberations.

5. The Chair of the Permanent Forum congratulated UNICEF for its work on behalf of children, adolescents and youth and recognized the Support Group's fundamental role in supporting the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He urged agencies that were not already involved to become active members of the Support Group. Participating agencies thanked UNICEF for hosting the meeting and for developing a strategic agenda for the occasion.

6. Mr. Pop noted the progress made at the regional and global levels during his three years as the Permanent Forum's focal point for indigenous children and youth. For example, the 2012 report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/67/225), focused on the rights of indigenous children and the extreme forms of prejudice and discrimination especially faced by girls. The adolescent-friendly version of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, produced by UNICEF, in collaboration with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, has helped to ensure that indigenous youth are familiar with its provisions. The study entitled "Breaking the silence on violence against indigenous children", produced by UNICEF, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and a situation analysis of indigenous children in Central America, produced by the UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, are examples of excellent responses to the call by the Permanent Forum to agencies and funds to contribute to detailed analysis on the situation of indigenous children.

7. The outgoing Chair of the Support Group, John Scott, from the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, thanked the UNICEF Principal Adviser on Gender and Rights for her participation in the meeting and noted that high-level support by United Nations agencies is critical to the Group's work of advancing the rights of indigenous peoples. He noted the importance of the Convention on Biological Diversity to indigenous peoples and emphasized that traditional knowledge should be protected, preserved and promoted, among other things, for its increasingly recognized contribution to conservation and the sustainable use of biological diversity.

8. The Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, Daniela Bas, expressed satisfaction and support for the work of the Support Group.

## II. Preparations of the Inter-Agency Support Group for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

9. In the follow-up to the annual meeting of the Support Group in 2012, the main objective of the meeting was to define the Group's strategic contributions to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, including reflections towards the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals.

10. The secretariat of the Permanent Forum shared a calendar of upcoming meetings and consultations in which the Permanent Forum has a direct or indirect role, which will contribute to the preparatory process of the World Conference. Several other meetings were identified by participants. These have been consolidated (see annex II), and will be updated regularly in the lead-up to the Conference, with contributions from all agencies.

11. In an effort to provide meaningful inputs to the World Conference, the Support Group had previously decided to develop a set of collaborative thematic papers to serve as background information and analysis on key issues. The papers will also

lay the foundation for developing and sharing common strategic messages and examples of good practice in the preparatory stages of the Conference.

12. The presentation and discussion of the draft thematic papers were therefore the key focus of the meeting. The seven themes and their lead agencies are the following:

(a) Protection from violence, exploitation and abuse (UNICEF and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women));

(b) Participation, governance and human rights (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP));

(c) Education (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO));

(d) Health (Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO));

(e) Indigenous persons with disabilities (Department of Economic and Social Affairs/secretariat of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities);

(f) Access to reproductive health services, including HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment (UNFPA);

(g) Land rights, food security, environment and climate change (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)).

13. Two additional papers were proposed: a paper on the right to participation of indigenous peoples was accepted, with OHCHR as the lead agency. This would allow the paper on participation, governance and human rights to focus on governance. Another paper on gender equality and women's empowerment was suggested, with UN-Women as the lead agency.

14. Throughout the discussions on current and future thematic papers, the importance of key messages from the Support Group was noted repeatedly. Participants therefore decided that key messages would be developed around the four themes of inequality, governance, gender and a human rights-based approach to development, as being intimately linked to the World Conference and the post-2015 development agenda.

15. The absence of several agencies in the Support Group was observed and identified as an issue that had been raised at previous meetings of the Group. Participants requested that the secretariat of the Permanent Forum provide support in strengthening the membership in the Support Group by engaging new members whose work is relevant to indigenous peoples, and by mobilizing others to take on a more active role.

16. The secretariat of the Permanent Forum presented General Assembly resolution 66/296 on the organizational arrangements for the World Conference (also known as the modalities resolution). This was to assist the Support Group to have a better appreciation of its role in the World Conference and its preparations. Support Group members were urged to consider supporting the participation of indigenous peoples, in particular women and youth, and to advocate for positive outcomes of the Conference.

17. A panel of distinguished guests provided a briefing on the World Conference, which included the two co-facilitators for the modalities resolution, Ambassador Montaño y Martinez and Mr. Henriksen, as well as Ms. López.

18. A Permanent Forum member, Mirna Cunningham, explained that in December 2010, the General Assembly had decided to organize a high-level event in 2014, during its sixty-ninth session, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. Following a meeting in Copenhagen in January 2011, preparations began that year with the establishment of the Global Coordinating Group. Following from this, several regional and national meetings were held, with the outcomes feeding into the Global Indigenous Preparatory Conference for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in Alta, Norway, from 10 to 12 June 2013.

19. The Alta outcome document defines four overarching themes to be addressed by the World Conference: (a) indigenous peoples' lands, territories, resources, oceans and waters; (b) United Nations system action for the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples; (c) the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples; and (d) indigenous peoples' priorities for development with free, prior and informed consent. Ms. Cunningham highlighted that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) had made an important contribution to the World Conference by producing a study on the situation of indigenous peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean. She noted the generous contribution of the Ford Foundation towards supporting the participation of indigenous peoples in the preparatory meetings and the Conference, and the lead role that the Government of Mexico was taking with respect to the Conference, including the convening of a group of "Friends of the World Conference". Ms. Cunningham noted that overall the World Conference would provide an opportunity to review what United Nations agencies and Governments have undertaken so far to support the implementation of the objectives of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples as well as the Declaration. She also emphasized the need for a strong outreach and communication strategy in order to ensure the high visibility of the conference outside of the United Nations system.

20. Ambassador Montaño began his remarks by recalling a similarly intensive planning process for the World Summit on Children in 1990 and he stressed the importance of the outcome of the World Conference being focused on implementation rather than on commitments. He stressed the strong public commitment of the Government of Mexico and the Secretary-General to ensuring the success of the Conference. The next preparatory meeting would be held in Mexico City at the National Anthropological Museum, from 2 to 4 April 2014. He expressed thanks for the cooperation of ECLAC in providing technical assistance for the meeting and noted that the cooperation of other regional commissions could also be useful.

21. Mr. Henriksen stated that the general rules and procedures of the General Assembly posed challenges to ensuring the wide participation of indigenous peoples in all aspects of the World Conference. A number of Governments, however, had supported flexibility in procedures, so as to allow the strongest possible participation of indigenous peoples in the Conference. Important outstanding issues included the nomination of co-facilitators for the outcome document of the Conference; deciding the themes for the round tables and interactive panel; deciding the co-chairs for those sessions; identifying representatives of indigenous peoples'

organizations to speak in the sessions; and defining an opening ceremony for the Conference involving indigenous peoples. He stressed that the outcome document would be concise and action-oriented and would address the "enormous gap between recognized rights at the international level and realities on the ground". He urged Support Group members to explore the possibilities for individual or joint side events at the Conference.

22. Ms. López summarized the challenging process that led to the Alta outcome document. She stressed the importance of agency involvement in the remaining months of preparatory consultations towards the World Conference. She reiterated the four priority issue themes of the Alta outcome document as the basis for the priorities and outcomes of the World Conference and emphasized the importance of Support Group members' active support.

23. Given that individual agencies had their own mandates and complex bureaucracies, and in order to secure high-level participation from United Nations agencies, Support Group members emphasized the need for quick resolution on the themes of the round tables and the interactive panel discussion. This would allow Support Group members and their heads of agencies to decide how best to participate (jointly or individually).

24. The World Bank noted that it was currently updating its environmental and social policies, including its policy on indigenous peoples. To that end, a global dialogue had begun, with one consultation already held in the Russian Federation and consultations to be held in South-East Asia and China. The World Bank was preparing case studies for the World Conference on: (a) land rights and land management; (b) economic development and sustainability; (c) government and institutional strengthening; and (d) public policies.

25. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) noted that it had taken very seriously the call for support to the World Conference by providing a grant of almost $1 million for enabling the participation of indigenous peoples during and after the Conference. IFAD welcomed the Alta outcome document and announced that it stood ready to participate in the Conference at the highest level. Other agencies welcomed and highly applauded the exceptional efforts of IFAD.

26. Reinforcing earlier observations, the panellists conveyed a number of key messages. United Nations agencies, and the Support Group as a whole, should actively discuss the World Conference with Member States and establish their own levels of support. The themes for the round tables and the interactive panel discussion should be defined in the coming months. Likewise, agencies may wish to participate in the informal interactive hearing that is to take place no later than June 2014, as well as in the informal consultations on the outcome document of the Conference. Agencies should not wait for their role to be defined but should instead take a proactive approach. Support Group members were urged to advocate within their agencies for a review of how their organizational programming supports implementation of the Declaration, taking into consideration efforts related to the Second International Decade on the World's Indigenous Peoples and linkages with the post-2015 development agenda. The panellists noted that at the Conference, heads of agencies should be able to announce how their agencies intend to strengthen their work to support Member States in realizing the rights of indigenous peoples and implementing the Declaration. The panellists emphasized that agencies should not wait for top-level approaches. A challenge was issued to agencies to

identify four or five individuals with global name recognition to act as "goodwill ambassadors" on behalf of the Conference.

27. The panellists underscored that, in the modalities resolution, the General Assembly had called for the inclusive participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities in the World Conference. All those closely involved in the preparations for the Conference agreed that regional participation should be equitable. The co-chairs of the round tables and interactive discussions will present written summaries of the proceedings, which should have an official status. They agreed that the Global Coordinating Group and the Permanent Forum could organize one or more meetings with the heads of agencies during the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum.

28. The Global Coordinating Group was taking stock of all the requests that indigenous peoples had tabled to the United Nations system and agencies over the years. For example, many indigenous peoples and their representative organizations were of the view that some United Nations agencies had not established mechanisms for the effective participation of indigenous peoples in their work.

29. Ms. Cunningham brought to the attention of participants the forthcoming World Conference of Indigenous Women, to be held in Lima from 28 to 30 October 2013 and noted that the outcome document from that gathering would integrate elements from the Alta outcome document, proposals for the post-2015 development agenda and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

30. IFAD noted that agencies could make progress in advocating for the World Conference of Indigenous Women, even if budget allocations were limited. For example, in the months preceding that Conference, statements by heads of agencies could include reference to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous leaders could also be invited to participate in board meetings of the United Nations agencies, while the Support Group could participate as a body in the preparatory meeting to be held in Mexico in April 2014 and in informal meetings to be held in New York in the same year.

31. The panellists thanked the Support Group for the invitation to the meeting and the opportunity to participate in a dialogue with its members. They emphasized the importance of the process leading towards the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and noted that it was a beginning, not the finish line.

32. As Chair of the meeting, UNICEF summarized several ways that agencies should be involved, as decisions about themes were taken and as the heads of agencies were approached for their agency's engagement. In that regard, agencies should:

(a) Develop substantial thematic papers, which will be a technical contribution to the World Conference and its related processes;

(b) Ensure that the thematic papers are part of the documentation for the World Conference preparatory meetings;

(c) Develop key messages on inequality, governance, gender and a human rights-based approach to development and ensure their dissemination within all agencies;

(d) Participate in informal consultations, interactive hearings, and round tables. At a later time, the Support Group will determine which head of agency may be best positioned to make a statement on behalf of the Group at the World Conference;

(e) Organize one or more side events, including outside of the United Nations Secretariat, and ensure that each agency undertakes an internal stock-taking of its support to the implementation of the Declaration, with actions defined for the post-Conference time period;

(f) Support indigenous peoples and their issues in bilateral and multilateral meetings, including during negotiations of resolutions (such as during the General Assembly) and of the outcome document;

(g) Provide funding to support the participation of indigenous peoples in the preparatory consultations and the Conference. In this respect, Ms. Cunningham noted that 10 foundations had created a coalition in support of the Conference.

33. A request was made by IFAD for more frequent communication among Support Group members, given that the next major meeting of the Group would be held in May 2014 and much would happen before that meeting. UNICEF agreed to hold teleconferences every two months, as a minimum interim channel for information-sharing.

34. The secretariat of the Permanent Forum recalled that in the previous teleconference of Support Group focal points, a task force on communication had been proposed. The Department of Information of the Secretariat explained that indigenous peoples' issues competed for attention with many other issues. Thus, the need for a strong communication strategy for the World Conference, with unified messages and strong spokespersons, was of key importance. In that regard, the Department would communicate with the media and external relations staff in each agency in the coming months to explore collaboration on a common communication approach to the Conference.

35. The chief of the secretariat of the Permanent Forum noted that owing to budgetary constraints, the upcoming thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum would feature only 10 official reports. All other reports and documents would be made available electronically on the Permanent Forum website, in the language of submission.

## III. Presentations on recent studies

36. Anthroscape, a consulting firm based in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and hired by the UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP field offices in the Republic of Congo, presented the research findings of a recent study carried out in that country entitled "Indigenous peoples' institutions, values and practices: lessons for the implementation of indigenous children's and women's rights". The study examines intra-ethnic relations, maternal and child health, justice, economic rights, education, violence and relations with outsiders among three groups: the Mbendjele, Tswa and Bongo. One overarching conclusion the study makes is that these indigenous groups face deeply ingrained discrimination at all levels and in all sectors. The team presented a set of programme priorities and recommendations to the Support Group. UNICEF noted that the terms of reference of the study were

available to any agency wishing to undertake similar research. Anthroscape stated that the methodology could be adapted for use anywhere in the world.

37. PAHO/WHO presented on the health of indigenous peoples in Latin America and noted the lack of available data related to health indicators for the region, as well as low access to and utilization of available health services. It remarked that coordinated studies on specific health-related issues were needed to respond to a number of critical concerns affecting the health of indigenous peoples, including neglected diseases. Moreover, indigenous peoples living in highly vulnerable conditions should be considered. In that regard, PAHO/WHO made a special reference to children living with their parents in prison as well as unregistered children. PAHO/WHO is committed to advancing the health agenda of indigenous peoples and is developing a strategy on cultural diversity in consultation with various United Nations agencies, key stakeholders and experts.

## IV. Review of the terms of reference for the Inter-Agency Support Group

38. The secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity presented revised terms of reference of the Support Group, leading participants through each suggested change and reaching agreement on a final, revised version through consensus (for the text of revised terms of reference, see annex III).

## V. Follow-up to the twelfth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, with a focus on Africa

39. Under this item, agencies reported on efforts made in response to recent recommendations of the Permanent Forum with a focus on Africa, the regional focus of the Permanent Forum at its twelfth session (see E/2013/43-E/C.19/2013/25, chap. I.B).

40. Participants described and explored the possibilities for joint action among agencies on the basis of initiatives already planned. The Convention on Biological Diversity noted that modest funds were available for training indigenous trainers in Africa and that it intended to organize three workshops in 2014, while welcoming the participation of other Support Group members.

41. UNICEF reminded participants that in paragraph 36 of the report on its twelfth session (ibid.), the Permanent Forum called upon UN-Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and other United Nations entities to build the capacity of indigenous women in Africa. UNICEF suggested that two or three countries be identified where two or more agencies could work together on implementing the recommendation. UNICEF noted that it had taken note of paragraph 37 of the report, dealing with the education of indigenous children in Africa, and that it would discuss the possibilities for stronger programming in this area, particularly within the context of the indigenous girl child. UNICEF also commented that a case could be made for an inter-agency report on the situation of indigenous peoples in Africa, in order to measure the progress made in recent years.

42. The Chair of the Permanent Forum stressed the importance of the Permanent Forum's recommendation relating to extractive industries and other large-scale development projects. He highlighted the Permanent Forum's recommendation that African States must respect the Declaration, in particular the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent (ibid., para. 38).

## VI. Adoption of the report and/or recommendations and results

43. Support Group members decided to provisionally adopt the actions arising from the meeting. It was agreed that the meeting report and its actions (see annex IV) would be adopted after further electronic consultations and subsequently submitted to the Permanent Forum for consideration at its thirteenth session.

44. Representatives of the Permanent Forum, its secretariat and UNICEF extended their thanks to all the participants for the rich and productive discussions during the two-day annual meeting. The Vice-Chair noted the work of Support Group members on the thematic papers and the progress made by the Permanent Forum in ensuring that indigenous peoples would be visible and present in the post-2015 development agenda. He encouraged members to be proactive in the months leading up to the World Conference, by attending preparatory meetings, interactive hearings and other consultations, especially at the country level. He urged every agency to update or develop a policy on indigenous peoples and encouraged Support Group members to reach out to the 10 newly appointed members of the Permanent Forum. The Chair of the Permanent Forum concluded by saying that the preparations for the World Conference had generated many hopes among indigenous leaders and should be a catalyst for further action.

# Annex I

## List of participants

| *Agency/organization* | *Name* | *Title* |
|---|---|---|
| Department of Economic and Social Affairs/secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | Ms. Chandra Roy-Henriksen | Chief |
| | Ms. Sonia Smallacombe | Secretariat of the Permanent Forum |
| | Mr. Broddi Sigurðarson | Secretariat of the Permanent Forum |
| | Mr. Arturo Requesens | Secretariat of the Permanent Forum |
| | Ms. Nilla Bernardi | Secretariat of the Permanent Forum |
| | Mr. Martin Andersen | Secretariat of the Permanent Forum |
| Department of Economic and Social Affairs/secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities | Ms. Carol Pollack | Social Affairs Officer |
| Department of Public Information | Ms. Martina Volpe Donlon | Palestine, Decolonization and Human Rights Section |
| IFAD | Ms. Antonella Cordone | Technical Adviser, Coordinator for Indigenous and Tribal Issues |
| | Ms. Alba Prados Pascual | Intern, IFAD North-America Liaison Office |
| Indigenous Fund | Ms. Amparo Morales | International Relations Coordinator |
| International Land Coalition | Ms. Annalisa Mauro | International Land Coalition secretariat |
| Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs | Mr. Sushil Raj | Humanitarian Affairs Officer |
| OHCHR | Ms. Samia Slimane | Human Rights Officer, Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section |
| Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity | Mr. John Scott | Programme Officer for Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices |
| UNDP | Ms. Shireen Said | Policy Adviser: Human Rights |
| | Ms. Sarah Rattray | Knowledge Management Specialist |
| | Ms. Laurence Klein | Programme Analyst Human Rights |
| | Mr. Terence Hay-Edie | Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme |

| *Agency, organization* | *Name* | *Title* |
|---|---|---|
| United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) | Ms. Laetitia Zobel | Major Groups and Stakeholder Branch, Nairobi |
| | Ms. Corli Pretorius | UNEP, New York Office |
| UNESCO | Ms. Ana Persic | Science Specialist, UNESCO New York |
| UNFPA | Mr. Alfonso Barragues | Technical Adviser, Human Rights |
| UNICEF | Ms. Anju Malhotra | Principal Adviser, Gender and Rights |
| | Ms. Beatrice Duncan | Focal Point for Indigenous Issues |
| | Ms. Nicola Brandt | Human Rights Specialist |
| Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | Mr. Paul Kanyinke Sena | Chair |
| | Mr. Alvaro Pop | Vice-Chair |
| | Dr. Mirna Cunningham | Member |
| UN-Women | Ms. Marina Mancinelli | Policy Specialist |
| | Ms. Babirye Brenda Bakwesegha | Communications Advocacy and Outreach Analyst |
| WHO | Karen Sealey, M.D. | PAHO/WHO Special Adviser |
| | Ms. Sandra Del Pino | Cultural Diversity Specialist |
| World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) | Ms. Lucinda Longcroft | Head, WIPO Coordination Office, New York |
| | Mr. Rama Rao Sankurathripati | Senior Adviser, WIPO Coordination Office, New York |
| | Mr. Q'apaj Conde | WIPO Indigenous Fellow, WIPO Headquarters, Geneva |
| World Bank | Mr. Luis Felipe Duchicela | Adviser on Indigenous Peoples |
| **Special guests** | | |
| Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations | Ambassador Jorge Mario Montaño y Martinez | Permanent Representative |
| Sámi Parliament of Norway | Mr. John Henriksen | International Representative |
| Global Coordinating Group | Ms. Binota Moy Dhamai | |
| | Ms. Tracey Whare | |
| | Ms. Florina Lopez | Co-Chair |

| *Agency/organization* | *Name* | *Title* |
|---|---|---|
| Department of Economic and Social Affairs | Ms. Daniela Bas | Director, Division for Social Policy and Development |

**Other participants**

Ms. Paula Claycomb, Rapporteur

Ms. Cassandra Smithies, Interpreter

Ms. Ashley Thomas, Intern (UNICEF)

# Annex II

## Pre-Conference itinerary

| *Name of meeting* | *Date and place of meeting* | *Organizing coordinating entity* |
|---|---|---|
| **2013** | | |
| World Conference of Indigenous Women | 28-30 October, Lima | |
| United Nations Latin American and Caribbean Group retreat | 29-31 October, New York | |
| Advisory Group for the Global Environment Facility | 1-2 November | |
| Global Environment Facility | December | |
| **2014** | | |
| Workshop on best practices for policies for indigenous peoples | January, Panama | World Bank |
| Commission on the Status of Women | 10-21 March (tentative), New York | UN-Women |
| Regional preparatory and thematic meeting for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples | 2-4 April, Mexico City | Government of Mexico |
| International Conference for Population and Development | April | UNFPA |
| Thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | 12-23 May, New York | Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues |
| Informal interactive hearing for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples | End June, New York | United Nations |
| First United Nations Environment Assembly | 23-27 June, Nairobi | UNEP |
| Seventh session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples | 7-11 July | Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples |
| Commemoration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples | 9 August, New York and around the world | Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues |
| High-level plenary meeting of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly (to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples) | 22-23 September (half-day on 23 September), New York | General Assembly |
| **2015** | | |
| Traditional foods | | Convention on Biological Diversity |
| Tierra Madre | | IFAD |

# Annex III

## Terms of reference of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues

(Revised and adopted on 23 October and finalized on 6 November 2013)

### Purpose

1. The Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (hereinafter, the Inter-Agency Support Group) is a mechanism for international cooperation on indigenous peoples' issues in relation to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues,[a] programmes and mechanisms and other intergovernmental bodies and entities on indigenous peoples' issues.

### Membership of the Inter-agency Support Group

2. The Inter-Agency Support Group shall be composed of focal points/units or representatives as identified by the heads of the departments of intergovernmental organizations, or other organizations working within the multilateral system, whose work is relevant to indigenous peoples and their issues.

3. Representatives should have broad knowledge and experience of the United Nations system and of activities concerning indigenous peoples' issues within their organizations.

4. Membership in the Group implies a commitment to participate regularly, including in the annual meetings, and, where feasible, on the margins of the annual sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and to share information in a timely fashion to enable and facilitate coordination and cooperation.

5. The Inter-Agency Support Group shall:

(a) Promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and follow up its effectiveness;[b]

(b) Provide an opportunity for the focal points, units or representatives of its members to meet regularly to exchange information in relation to their work on indigenous peoples' issues;

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[a] The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is an advisory body of independent experts reporting to the Economic and Social Council on all matters within the mandate of the Council and was established by its resolution 2000/22. The General Assembly, in its resolution 57/191 of 18 December 2002, entitled "Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues", explicitly referred to the Inter-Agency Support Group and invited the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Support Group, other relevant international and regional organizations and bodies and indigenous people to assist the Forum in carrying out its mandate as enumerated in paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22, including through the provision of staff.

[b] Article 42: "The United Nations, its bodies, including the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and specialized agencies, including at the country level, and States shall promote respect for and full application of the provisions of this Declaration and follow up the effectiveness of this Declaration".

(c) Consider ways of strengthening cooperation among its members to promote the human rights and well-being of indigenous peoples through joint activities and other forms of cooperation;

(d) Analyse the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and contribute to their implementation on the basis of the mandates, resources and capacity of each organization;

(e) Develop relationships with Governments, donors, civil society organizations, indigenous peoples' organizations and others to consider cooperative ways of supporting the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

(f) Develop relationships with other relevant mandates, including of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Governments, donors, civil society organizations, indigenous peoples' organizations and others to consider cooperative ways of supporting the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

(g) Interact with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and its members to provide and seek information, advice and substantive inputs;

(h) Advise and assist in the mainstreaming of indigenous peoples' issues within each one of the members' programmes and the international system;

(i) Strengthen mutual support for the focal points/units or representatives in each of the agencies, organizations, programmes and entities participating in the Inter-Agency Support Group;

(j) Coordinate and liaise with regional and national inter-agency support groups and share good practices and experiences.

**Methods of operation**

6. The Inter-Agency Support Group shall meet at least once a year for a substantive meeting, with follow-up meetings, as necessary. Through practice, the Inter-Agency Support Group also meets formally/officially during the annual sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

7. The Chair of the Inter-Agency Support Group rotates through the members on an annual basis. The Chair is responsible for the hosting, convening and facilitation of all meetings of the Inter-Agency Support Group. The Chair rotates after the end of each annual session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

8. The secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues co-chairs the meetings of the Inter-Agency Support Group and provides support and continuity to the Chair, and the Inter-Agency Support Group, as required.

9. The Inter-Agency Support Group will invite members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as contributors to its discussions, as necessary, taking into account their respective portfolios.

10. The Inter-Agency Support Group may invite on an ad hoc basis, experts, civil society organizations and other entities whose work may contribute to the work of the Inter-Agency Support Group, as observers and contributors to its discussions. These invited contributors would be able to attend such parts of the inter-agency

meetings as may be decided by the Inter-Agency Support Group rotating Chair and Co-Chair, after consulting with other members of the Inter-Agency Support Group.

11. The members of the Inter-Agency Support Group are responsible for covering their own costs in relation to meetings.

12. The Inter-Agency Support Group shall keep a record of proceedings.

# Annex IV

## Actions arising from the annual meeting of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues for 2013

1. In preparation for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, the Inter-Agency Support Group would further develop and finalize in a timely manner thematic papers on the following areas/issues:

(a) Protection from violence, exploitation and abuse (UNICEF and UN-Women);

(b) Governance and human rights (UNDP);

(c) Education (UNESCO);

(d) Health (PAHO/WHO);

(e) Indigenous persons with disabilities (Department of Economic and Social Affairs/secretariat of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities);

(f) Access to reproductive health services, including HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment (UNFPA);

(g) Lands, territories and natural resources (FAO).

2. The papers will follow the common template of: (a) key messages; (b) a summary; and (c) background and analysis, with agencies having the option of attaching an annex setting out good practices. UN-Women will revert to the Inter-Agency Support Group with a decision on taking the lead in developing a paper on gender equality and women's empowerment. OHCHR will revert on its decision to develop a paper on participation. Regarding the paper on lands, territories and natural resources, details could not be discussed owing to the unavailability of FAO to participate in the meeting. It was agreed for a separate discussion to take place between the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Land Coalition, FAO, IFAD, UNEP and UNESCO to agree on the process, structure and content of that thematic paper. Mirna Cunningham suggested focusing the paper within the perspective of the self-determination of indigenous peoples and the inalienable collective right to the ownership, use and control of lands, territories and other natural resources, which is a central theme to the World Conference. There was general acceptance of this proposal among the participating agencies.

3. With a view towards effective advocacy around the World Conference, the Inter-Agency Support Group is encouraged to develop key messages around the four themes of inequality, governance, gender and a human rights-based approach to development.

4. The Inter-Agency Support Group would continue to look for opportunities to support the participation of indigenous peoples in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (including its preparatory processes), to be held in September 2014.

5. Entities would continue to also raise awareness among senior managers and heads of agencies about the World Conference and encourage their participation.

6. The Global Coordinating Group of the World Conference and the Permanent Forum will consider the recommendation that they organize one or more meetings with the heads of agencies to brief them on the Conference and advocate for their active support.

7. The revised terms of reference would be circulated electronically by the Convention on Biological Diversity to all members of the Support Group for final review and clearance, and the final version would then be forwarded to the Chair of the Permanent Forum.

8. The Inter-Agency Support Group agrees to hold, as a minimum, teleconferences every two months in the months leading up to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in September 2014, to share progress and agree on appropriate actions as the World Conference process unfolds.

9. The Inter-Agency Support Group agrees that all reports, studies, surveys and other documents prepared or commissioned by individual agencies will be made available online and that Support Group members will be informed of the site.

10. In the capacity of Co-Chair, the chief of the secretariat of the Permanent Forum would identify relevant entities not currently participating in the Inter-Agency Support Group and write to the respective heads of agencies, requesting the appointment of a focal point on indigenous issues.

11. Agencies are requested to submit annual reports to the Permanent Forum, including an executive summary on the front page, which focuses on responses to recommendations of the Permanent Forum, in order to assist the secretariat of the Permanent Forum in their analysis of reports by entities and the preparation of the report in addition to that of the final comprehensive report on the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

12. Members of the Inter-Agency Support Group requested more collaboration with members of the Permanent Forum during the annual sessions of the Permanent Forum to ensure greater coherence and synergies, with particular reference to recommendations and follow-up.